

## On the Land

### MARKET REPORTS.

There was a medium yarding of fat cattle at Burnside last week, 236 head being penned, against 209 head for the previous week. The yarding comprised some very prime bullocks and a sprinkling of well-finished heifers and cows. The market opened at the preceding week's rates, but as the sale progressed there was an easing in values, and taken over all, prices can be quoted at from 10s to £1 per head easier than at the previous market. Extra prime bullocks made to £33 10s, prime bullocks £24 to £28, lighter sorts £14 to £18 10s, extra prime heifers £16 to £19 5s, prime cows £11 to £18. Fat Sheep.—In this section there was a medium yarding, 1765 being penned, as against 1862 on the preceding week. Throughout the offering there were some very prime wethers and ewes penned, with a proportion of medium and lighter sheep. The sale opened at slightly under the previous week's values, and although at times bidding was spirited, values generally can be said to be easier by about 1s per head on the preceding week's rates. The first offerings of newly-shorn sheep were included in the penning. Extra prime heavy wethers 53s to 56s 3d, prime 46s 6d to 52s, medium and lighter sorts 38s to 45s, extra prime shorn wethers 44s 6d, prime 38s to 41s 6d, extra prime heavy ewes 44s to 50s 9d, prime 38s to 42s, lighter sorts 34s to 37s, shorn ewes to 33s 6d. Lambs.—The largest entry to date this season came forward, the quality being very fair to extra good. A proportion were rather light. The demand was fair, and prime lambs sold at from 45s to 51s, lighter sorts from 30s upwards. Pigs.—There were 109 fats and 72 slips. Extra big baconers sold well, and average baconers and porkers were about 6s down.

The sale at Addington last week was a good one, fat cattle and store sheep meeting with an improved sale, while fat sheep were firm. Spring Lambs.—75 were entered. They ranged from 27s 2d to 45s 6d, the market being spirited throughout. Fat Sheep.—Except for small lots from Blenheim and South Otago, the market was of Canterbury origin. They met with a rather irregular sale, but values were fully up to those of the previous week. Extra prime wethers made 57s to 59s 4d, prime wethers 48s 6d to 55s, medium wethers 44s 6d to 47s 6d, light wethers 41s to 44s, extra prime ewes to 50s 1d, prime wethers 41s 6d to 44s 6d, medium ewes 38s to 41s, light ewes 34s 10d to 37s 6d, prime shorn wethers 40s to 44s 4d, medium shorn wethers 35s to 38s 6d, light shorn wethers 29s 10d to 34s. Fat Cattle.—The entry numbered 360 head. There was a firming in values of from 20s to 25s per head. Extra prime beef made to 62s per 100lb, prime 55s 6d to 58s 6d, prime heavy-weight 52s 6d to 57s, medium quality 48s to 52s, light inferior 43s to 46s 6d, rough down to 30s per 100lb. Extra prime heavy-weight steers £26 to £28 7s 6d, prime heavy steers £22 19s to £25 10s, medium-weight steers £18 5s to £21 19s, light steers £15 to £18, rough steers £11 10s to £14 10s, extra prime heifers to £19 7s 6d, prime heifers £14 to £17 5s, or-

dinary heifers £10 10s to £13 10s, light heifers £8 to £10 5s, extra prime cows to £19 2s 6d, prime cows £13 10s to £16 15s, ordinary cows £10 5s to £13, light cows £8 17s 6d to £10, rough cows £6 to £8 6s. Vealers.—Good prices ruled. Runners made £8 5s to £8 15s, good vealers £6 15s to £7 10s, medium £5 2s 6d to £6 7s 6d, calves 20s to 30s. Fat Pigs.—There was a good sale. Choppers made £4 to £7 10s, baconers £4 5s to £6 10s (average price per lb 8d to 9d), porkers 52s to 75s (average price per lb 9d to 10d).

### GARDENING NOTES

#### WORK FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

The Vegetable Garden.—The past month was a fairly good one for gardening operations, although the cold snap and heavy rainfall towards the end, beneficial no doubt to early vegetables, may have occasioned a setback to tender seedlings. This is a lesson to gardeners that they should profit by regarding probable weather conditions—not to be in too great a hurry in putting in their tender early crops. It is always advisable to delay putting out plants such as tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins, marrows, French beans, or a quantity of early potatoes, and thus be on the safe side. Very often all this class of vegetation gets destroyed by late frosts which frequently occur as late as the first week of November. It is wise, therefore, not to venture too much. A small quantity, however, may be put in, and the chance taken of the weather conditions turning out satisfactory, delaying the main crops until all danger from frosts is past—generally about the middle of November. Most of the plants can be kept growing in pots or boxes, and thus but little time is lost and probably something gained, ultimately. Always keep in mind the rotation of your crops by sowing a supply sufficient for the regular needs of the household; among other vegetables peas, beans, turnips, spinach, lettuce, radish, cauliflower, and all the cabbage tribe—savoy, brocoli, kale, and Brussels sprouts. It is a mistake putting in too much or too many at a time; the supply should be regulated by the demand. Seed plots require to be protected from the small birds, which are very troublesome in the early part of the season especially. Wire netting forms the best protection both for seeds and young shoots, or black thread may be stretched along the rows. Sow kidney beans towards the end of the month or even later if desired as the slightest frost destroys them.

The Fruit Garden.—Newly planted trees or shrubs will be all the better of a good watering if the weather happens to be dry for a lengthy spell. A cavity should be left around each tree to hold the water so that it may penetrate to the roots, otherwise watering is a waste of time. Many people adopt just the opposite course: they pile the soil high up around the stem like a cone which tends to throw all the moisture from rain or other sources away from the tree. If newly-planted trees are blown about they ought to

be staked, as rocking to and fro in the wind will injure them. Late vines should be attended to by stopping the lateral shoots one or two eyes beyond the bunch of berries. Do not attempt to tie back the lateral shoots for some time yet, as they are so soft and succulent that the least handling will cause them to snap; wait until they grow tough and hardy. Keep the floors of the vinery damp in hot weather; give top air and avoid draughts. Keep a lookout for mildew, and if it should appear give the affected parts a dusting of sulphur. Shut up the ventilators early in the afternoon so as to keep in a nice warm atmosphere during the night; and do not open too early in the morning—about 11 o'clock will be time enough—afterwards sprinkle the floor with water which should be left standing in the house all night. There is much work ahead for the fruit-grower in seeing that the fruit is properly thinned out. When trees bear a heavy crop they should be attended to at the proper time. When the fruit is set, spraying for the codlin moth should commence, the eggs being laid in the hollow of the fruit just at the point where the bloom is attached before dropping off. Keep the ground cultivated around the tree, or better still, cultivate all the ground of the orchard.

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